



## Grain

“Act boldly.” –Women of the ELCA

Submitted by Rita Harris, Boston Massachusetts

## Field

<sup>4</sup>But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.” <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, “Get up and eat.” <sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, “Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.” <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. 1 Kings 19:4-8

## Thoughts by Reverend James Lynch, Town of Dunn, WI

We have had quite the wild ride in the news. We’ve been turned inside out and upside down. The Spirit has been blowing. We’re just not sure from where. We’re really not sure what’s next. May we be cursed to live in interesting times doesn’t seem to begin to cover it.

There was the assassination attempt. President Joe Biden decided it was in the country’s best interests to step aside. Vice President Kamala Harris became the frontrunner for the stop spot on the Democratic ticket. She has the chance to become the first woman and the first woman of color to occupy the Oval Office. Sadly, she is now the target of vicious racist and misogynistic attacks.

Sonya Massey, a black woman, was shot to death in her home in Springfield, Ill., by a sheriff’s deputy who was there only because she reported a prowler.

Sometimes, we just have to wonder how much more we can take, look upward and ask how much more do we have to take?

Elijah, the prophet on the run from the wrath of Queen Jezebel, the prophet who had bested the prophets of Baal, might ask if we would want to trade places. He might ask if we think our lives are any more overwrought than his was.

He has acted in the name of and the defense of his God, the God of Israel, the one true God and look where it got him. Pursued by soldiers. Alone in the wilderness. Friendless. Hungry. Thirsty. Ready to give up, give out, give in. That was not to be the end of the story.

He got in a nap. The angels came and fixed him a little nosh. Then he was good to go. Not that it would get easier. But he wouldn’t be going forward alone.

We may be cursed to live in interesting times. But we aren’t living in them alone. There are plenty of brothers and sisters, some who may seem like angels, who are ready to help us move forward, just as we are ready to help them do the same. After a nap and a nosh, of course. Happy Monday!

## Share

Send any quotes you’d like to share with our network to [cynthia.crane@elca.org](mailto:cynthia.crane@elca.org)

All Monday Quotes found under the Resources & Advocacy Tools tab at [www.loppw.org](http://www.loppw.org)

Many blessings upon you,

Pastor Jim